

In Re: W.R. Grace &amp; Co., et al., Debtors

Case No. 01-1139 (JKF)

Craig Molgaard, Ph.D.  
June 25, 2009

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1 correct?  
 2 A Right.  
 3 Q Okay. If, hypothetically, the person in Libby  
 4 developed an asbestos-related disease from that  
 5 exposure; okay --  
 6 A Uh-huh.  
 7 Q -- any of them; meso, lung cancer, asbestosis,  
 8 pleural disease.  
 9 A Right.  
 10 Q As an epidemiologist -- strike that.  
 11 If the person in Libby that was loading the  
 12 concentrate onto the rail car developed an  
 13 asbestos-related disease from the handling of the  
 14 vermiculite concentrate onto the rail car, and the  
 15 individual in Boston developed an asbestos-related  
 16 disease from his handling of the taking off of the  
 17 vermiculite concentrate from the rail car in Boston,  
 18 from an epidemiological standpoint, would there be any  
 19 reason to believe that the asbestos-related disease that  
 20 was contracted by the two gentlemen would be a different  
 21 disease? I maybe asked -- let's say it was  
 22 mesothelioma. If the gentleman in Libby contracted  
 23 mesothelioma from that exposure to concentrate and the  
 24 gentleman in Boston contracted mesothelioma from his  
 25 exposure to that concentrate that ended up in Boston,

1 disease that you ultimately get is going to be the same  
 2 disease; correct?  
 3 A Right. The only thing, it might be -- the  
 4 progression has spread. Might be -- could possibly be  
 5 faster in Libby if there's a more concentrated exposure.  
 6 That's a hypothetical.  
 7 Q Right; that's a hypothesis that you would agree  
 8 hasn't been tested.  
 9 A Right.  
 10 Q To the extent that it's been tested with  
 11 analytical epidemiology, you would look to the Amandus  
 12 and McDonald study and the mortality study for -- well,  
 13 actually, I -- well, I would say the Amandus and  
 14 McDonald study because you have some understanding of  
 15 levels of exposure in that study.  
 16 A Some. But I would look at the ATSDR stuff too.  
 17 Q Okay; the ATSDR Mortality Study?  
 18 A Yeah.  
 19 Q Okay.  
 20 To get back to the hypothetical, the point  
 21 you're making is that if you're exposed -- let's say  
 22 you're exposed to, you know, a hundred fibers. This  
 23 would be true whether you were in Libby or somewhere  
 24 else; correct?  
 25 A Uh-huh.

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1 would you expect the mesothelioma to be different  
 2 mesothelioma?  
 3 A Normally, no, but the environmental exposures  
 4 would be different. Because the guy loading the stuff  
 5 onto the train in Libby would, undoubtedly, have more  
 6 exposures than just the loading of. Because he's living  
 7 in this town where this stuff's all over and there's  
 8 clouds of dust and all this.  
 9 Q Right.  
 10 A The guy in Boston, in theory, is just picking  
 11 up a bag and dropping it. So maybe that could cause a  
 12 different type of disease pattern, I don't know, because  
 13 the exposure is stronger. Maybe you get more or faster  
 14 problems in Libby.  
 15 Q So that the -- you're hypothesizing that it's  
 16 possible that if -- and your premise is that it is the  
 17 level of exposure; correct?  
 18 A Yeah.  
 19 Q Because we can agree that the stuff is the same  
 20 stuff.  
 21 A Yeah; right, right.  
 22 Q And from a toxicologically, epidemiologically,  
 23 everything we know in science, there's no reason to  
 24 think that the stuff -- if you're exposed to the same  
 25 stuff in Boston as you're exposed to in Libby, the

1 Q If you were in Boston and you happened to be  
 2 the person that takes the stuff off the cart every day,  
 3 and you're exposed every day for forty years, you might  
 4 have a different rate of how fast you might develop the  
 5 disease than the guy that just worked there for two days  
 6 or the guy that worked there for just a year; correct?  
 7 A Right.  
 8 Q And did the same thing; right?  
 9 A Right.  
 10 Q Okay. So the fact that you might get it faster  
 11 is dependent upon the level of the exposure; correct?  
 12 A Partially it's that, and partially, you know,  
 13 one of the arguments has been made is that the fiber  
 14 from Libby is different and it causes a different kind  
 15 of asbestosis. I'm not an expert in that area at all,  
 16 but that's something that, I think, that has been talked  
 17 about in some of the literature.  
 18 Q No, no, and I totally understand you're talking  
 19 there about the differences between chrysotile and  
 20 amphibole asbestos or tremolite asbestos or whatever you  
 21 might want to call the asbestos at Libby.  
 22 A Uh-huh.  
 23 Q But I'm asking you, I think, a different  
 24 question which is that I want you to assume that they're  
 25 exposed to the exact -- to the Libby fibers, whatever

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1 conservative fashion. And it's a way of putting a brake  
2 on our own theoretical and methodological exercises.  
3 **MS. HARDING:** Is it time for lunch? Break  
4 for lunch?  
5 **VIDEO TECHNICIAN:** Off the record, the time  
6 is 12:25.  
7 (Deposition in recess from 12:25 p.m. to  
8 1:12 p.m.)  
9 **VIDEO TECHNICIAN:** We're back on the  
10 record. The time is 1:12.  
11 **Q** (By Ms. Harding) Dr. Molgaard, I'm sorry, a  
12 couple more questions about the CARD Mortality Study  
13 and, really, actually, Dr. Whitehouse's use of it.  
14 **A** Uh-huh.  
15 **Q** And I just want to make the record clear,  
16 because I think -- I think it is, but I just want to  
17 make sure.  
18 On page -- I've written over it, and I think it  
19 must be 19 of Dr. Whitehouse's study.  
20 **MR. FINCH:** Report.  
21 **MS. HARDING:** Report, I'm sorry; thank you.  
22 **Q** (By Ms. Harding) Exhibit -- it's the May  
23 report, Exhibit 5. Oh, I'm sorry, this is your report;  
24 I apologize. This is your report. You have some -- so  
25 this is Exhibit 2.

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1 So on page 19 of your report, you talk about  
2 some comparisons and line of reasoning and kinds of  
3 conclusions -- well, let me start with comparisons.  
4 I think you've already testified, I just want  
5 to make sure that it's true with respect to the kinds of  
6 things that you say on page 19, that any comparisons  
7 that you make, based upon the data or the analysis of  
8 Dr. Whitehouse in his CARD Mortality Study, are intended  
9 to be hypothesis generating comparisons; correct?  
10 **A** Right.  
11 **MR. HEBERLING:** Objection; confusing and  
12 overbroad as to all the comparisons on page 19.  
13 **Q** (By Ms. Harding) Okay. Well, to start with,  
14 with respect to the comparison of the CARD Mortality  
15 Study to the Markowitz and the Selikoff and Seidman  
16 study, I think you already testified that comparisons  
17 between CARD Mortality Study and those studies are for  
18 the purpose of generating hypothesis --  
19 **A** Yes.  
20 **Q** -- to be later tested by analytical  
21 epidemiological studies; correct?  
22 **A** Yes.  
23 **Q** Okay. And the same could be said with respect  
24 to the middle paragraph, here, when you talk about  
25 conclusions about the entire cohort of Libby; correct?

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1 **A** Yes.  
2 **Q** Okay. So that the conclusion -- or the  
3 statement "The CARD Mortality Study could be used to  
4 draw conclusions about asbestos-related mortality in the  
5 entire cohort of Libby, by simply assuming that the  
6 entire cohort of Libby there was no additional ARD  
7 deaths which were not CARD Mortality Study deaths. This  
8 is a very conservative assumption of zero deaths in the  
9 rest of the cohort. The conclusion at Dr. Whitehouse's  
10 report that 'Libby's mesothelioma rate is certainly the  
11 highest in the United States' is a proper conclusion.  
12 It is a proper epidemiological conclusion because it  
13 rests on comparison with other available mesothelioma  
14 rates in the United States. This is how epidemiologists  
15 make judgments about excess occurrence of disease and  
16 excess occurrence of risk. It is standard of practice  
17 in epidemiology and public health." And by that I  
18 understand that you mean that it is appropriate to make  
19 that comparison and to talk about this possibility as  
20 generating a hypothesis that should now be tested with  
21 analytical epidemiology; correct?  
22 **A** Right.  
23 **Q** The -- we marked earlier Exhibit 1, I think, is  
24 the new data from -- or I'm not sure how new it  
25 is -- but data that you just provided from NIOSH, CDC

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1 National Institute Occupational Safety and Health,  
2 Work-Related Lung Diseases (WoRLD) Surveillance System  
3 Asbestosis: Mortality; is that right?  
4 **A** That's right.  
5 **Q** And it looks like the -- underneath  
6 Work-Related Lung Disease (WoRLD) Surveillance System,  
7 it says -- it looks like -- did it come from a website;  
8 do you know?  
9 **A** Actually, Jon found it and I did not find it,  
10 so I'm not sure where it was from.  
11 **Q** Okay. It looks like it says "Asbestosis and  
12 Related Exposures 2007 TO 1-10." Do you see that in  
13 kind of a --  
14 **A** I actually don't have it.  
15 **Q** I think it's in the very bottom.  
16 **A** Is it?  
17 **Q** Or maybe not. Maybe -- did we ever give you  
18 one?  
19 **A** I don't think I got one.  
20 **MS. HARDING:** You might have the original,  
21 Jon. Do you need a copy back?  
22 **MR. HEBERLING:** No.  
23 **Q** (By Ms. Harding) Do you know if this data was  
24 generated in 2007 and reported -- first reported in  
25 2007?



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<p>1 A I don't know.</p> <p>2 Q Don't know; okay. But if you just turn to the</p> <p>3 page of the data, it's got six columns; is that right?</p> <p>4 A I have -- yes, there are six.</p> <p>5 Q County is the first column, State is the second</p> <p>6 column.</p> <p>7 A Right.</p> <p>8 Q Okay; Age-Adjusted Rate, Crude Rate, Number of</p> <p>9 Deaths, and Percent Female; is that right?</p> <p>10 A Right.</p> <p>11 Q Okay. What I wanted to ask you is, there is a</p> <p>12 difference between the rate of disease in a population</p> <p>13 and the number of cases of disease in a population;</p> <p>14 correct?</p> <p>15 A Right.</p> <p>16 Q And just -- it's also true that a particular</p> <p>17 geographical location may have the highest rate of</p> <p>18 disease, but that same geographic location may not have</p> <p>19 the highest number of cases of disease; correct?</p> <p>20 A That's correct.</p> <p>21 Q Okay. And, indeed, that's the case on this</p> <p>22 chart here; right? It lists Lincoln County as having</p> <p>23 the highest rate of disease --</p> <p>24 A Right.</p> <p>25 Q -- for asbestosis; is that right?</p>	<p>1 asbestosis; is that right?</p> <p>2 A Yeah, that's right.</p> <p>3 Q And the fourth is Mobile County, Alabama with</p> <p>4 137 cases of asbestosis. And then, looks like the</p> <p>5 fifth, I think, is Kitsap County, Washington with 107</p> <p>6 cases. Do you see that?</p> <p>7 A Uh-huh; yes.</p> <p>8 Q Now, in this case in which you've been asked to</p> <p>9 testify on behalf of the Libby Claimants, you are</p> <p>10 not -- or haven't been asked, I don't think -- you can</p> <p>11 correct me if I'm wrong -- to testify about the number</p> <p>12 of claims that will be presented to a hypothetical trust</p> <p>13 if Grace emerges from bankruptcy; is that correct?</p> <p>14 A I have not had that discussion with anybody.</p> <p>15 Q Okay. And the fact that Lincoln County has the</p> <p>16 highest rate of asbestosis does not necessarily mean</p> <p>17 that Lincoln County will present to the trust, after</p> <p>18 it's formed if it's formed, the highest number of cases;</p> <p>19 correct? You don't know the answer to that; correct?</p> <p>20 A I don't, no.</p> <p>21 Q Okay. And it's -- well, that's fine. And you</p> <p>22 aren't going to be presenting any testimony on that</p> <p>23 issue; correct?</p> <p>24 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; unclear as to</p> <p>25 what issue?</p>
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<p>1 A That's right.</p> <p>2 Q Okay. And -- but in terms of the numbers of</p> <p>3 cases of asbestosis in a given county, it's not the</p> <p>4 highest; correct?</p> <p>5 A That's correct.</p> <p>6 Q Indeed, it's -- I can't tell exactly where. It</p> <p>7 may be somewhere in the middle?</p> <p>8 A Yeah, that sounds fair.</p> <p>9 Q Okay. It's got 44 cases of asbestosis listed</p> <p>10 in number of deaths; is that correct?</p> <p>11 A That's right.</p> <p>12 Q And the highest number of cases of disease in</p> <p>13 any county is Camden County, New Jersey; correct?</p> <p>14 A That's right.</p> <p>15 Q And that's 152 cases.</p> <p>16 A That's right.</p> <p>17 Q And then the second highest, looks like it's</p> <p>18 Mobile County, Alabama with -- oh, no, that's not right;</p> <p>19 I'm sorry. The second highest would be Jefferson</p> <p>20 County, Texas.</p> <p>21 A Texas, yeah.</p> <p>22 Q With 151 cases.</p> <p>23 A Right.</p> <p>24 Q Okay; of asbestosis. The third highest is</p> <p>25 Somerset County, New Jersey with 143 cases of</p>	<p>1 Q (By Ms. Harding) Okay; on the issue of how</p> <p>2 many cases from any particular jurisdiction and eventual</p> <p>3 trust will be presented with from any particular county.</p> <p>4 A Yeah, I wouldn't be addressing that.</p> <p>5 Q Okay.</p> <p>6 The next thing I wanted to ask about is there</p> <p>7 are a number of -- there's a place in Dr. Whitehouse's</p> <p>8 report where he calculates a rate of mesothelioma in</p> <p>9 Libby. Do you recall that?</p> <p>10 A Uh-huh.</p> <p>11 Q And there's also a place where he calculates a</p> <p>12 rate of asbestosis in Libby.</p> <p>13 A Right.</p> <p>14 Q Okay. Now, if you're going to calculate a rate</p> <p>15 of disease in a given geographic location, it is</p> <p>16 Epidemiology 101 that your denominator must be the</p> <p>17 population that gives rise to your numerator of cases;</p> <p>18 is that right?</p> <p>19 A It can be done that way. I mean, it's usually</p> <p>20 done that way, but you can also crank rates the same way</p> <p>21 that Whitehouse did which is basically it's a rate</p> <p>22 within his own case series. There's nothing wrong with</p> <p>23 doing that. But it's not -- normally, you're going to</p> <p>24 work the way you suggested.</p> <p>25 Q Okay. But just to be clear, the rates that he</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 145</p> <p>1 makes it into an analytic epidemiological -- designed, 2 at least, to attempt to -- 3 A They're attempting to bridge it into -- from 4 descriptive to an analytical effort, yeah. 5 Q You had mentioned earlier that you would -- I 6 think I asked you if you were trying to understand the 7 rate of disease in the Libby population, this would be 8 one of the studies you would look at; correct? 9 A Uh-huh, yeah. 10 Q Along with the work by Dr. Amandus and NIOSH 11 and their studies in the '80s, Dr. Sullivan's follow-up 12 of that work, and the McDonald studies, both in the '80s 13 and the follow-up in 2004; right? 14 A Right. 15 Q Okay. The -- if you turn to page 25 of the 16 document, table 7 -- you know, actually, before -- 17 MR. HEBERLING: Got an extra over there? 18 That's all right; I've got one. 19 Q (By Ms. Harding) You had a criticism of 20 Dr. Moolgavkar. I think Dr. Moolgavkar had a criticism 21 of the study, and you had a criticism of his criticism. 22 And it related to whether the additional lung cancers 23 that they added to the observed cases in this study was 24 appropriate or not; correct? 25 A Uh-huh.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 147</p> <p>1 for these diseases in the published literature? 2 A For Libby or just in general? 3 Q I'm sorry; for Libby, for Lincoln County. 4 A No, I think this is, by and large, the one that 5 has it like this. 6 Q Okay. And so is it fair to say that this is 7 the best analytic epidemiological evidence on the rates 8 of disease in Lincoln County for the period 1979 to 9 1988 -- 1998? 10 A I would say it's certainly one of the stronger 11 ones; okay? I don't know if it's the best, but it's 12 certainly one of the better ones. 13 Q Okay. What -- if there are -- there aren't 14 any -- would you agree with me that there 15 aren't -- well, there certainly are rates of disease in 16 the workers that are published in other places -- 17 A Right. 18 Q -- that are analytic epidemiology. 19 A Right. 20 Q Okay. Are there any other published analytic 21 epidemiologic studies designed to be able to test causal 22 hypotheses about disease rates in Lincoln County that 23 you're aware of? 24 A Um -- 25 Q Not just of workers.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 146</p> <p>1 Q Okay. And Dr. Moolgavkar thought that it was 2 not appropriate, and you thought that it was okay to do 3 it; correct? 4 A Yeah. 5 Q Leaving that aside, just looking at table 7, 6 for Combined Respiratory Mortality in Lincoln County -- 7 A Right. 8 Q -- Using the Montana and US Population 9 References, 1979 to 1998 -- 10 A Uh-huh. 11 Q -- would you agree that this provides the rate 12 of disease in Lincoln County during -- for these 13 diseases, during the period of time described, 1979 to 14 1998? 15 A Yeah, I would assume that's true. 16 Q Okay. And as far as you know -- well, let me 17 ask the next question. In table 8, would you agree that 18 it is the rate of disease for the diseases listed in 19 table 8 in Lincoln County, from 1979 to 1998, excluding 20 cases that had worked formerly for W.R. Grace at the 21 mine? 22 A That appears to be what it is, yeah. 23 Q Okay. And to your -- in your opinion, are you 24 aware of any other analytic epidemiological study that's 25 been published that provides this kind of information</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 148</p> <p>1 A But in general, in the general population? 2 Q In the general population in Lincoln County. 3 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; unclear as to 4 time. 5 MS. HARDING: I think I said from 1979 to 6 1998. 7 THE WITNESS: I think -- this is the one I 8 guess I know of. 9 Q (By Ms. Harding) Okay. Are there any others 10 that I should look to or be aware of? I'm just not 11 aware of any others. I just want to make sure we're not 12 missing something. 13 A I think not. 14 Q Would you agree that in table 8, when the ATSDR 15 authors exclude the workers from the Libby mine from the 16 analysis, that the statistical -- that the statistical 17 significance of the relationships reported disappears in 18 all categories in table 8? 19 A Disappears, but it's very close in a couple of 20 places. But it is not apparent in table 8. 21 Q Okay. 22 Dr. Molgaard, I was going to ask you a bunch of 23 questions about Dr. Whitehouse's impression study, but 24 because my colleague here needs to go ask questions 25 next, I do just want to confirm that the Whitehouse</p>



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1 progression study, which we marked as Exhibit 7, is a  
2 descriptive study that's not designed to test  
3 hypotheses; right? We already talked about that.

4 A Right.

5 Q Okay. And you and the experts that prepared  
6 reports for Grace had some disagreements about some of  
7 the techniques that were used by Dr. Whitehouse in that  
8 paper; correct?

9 A Yeah.

10 Q Okay. But the -- the -- you don't disagree  
11 with the Grace -- any of the Grace experts that have  
12 reviewed the study that it is not an analytic study  
13 intended to test causal hypotheses. It's not designed  
14 to do that; correct?

15 A It's a descriptive study, yes, with  
16 what -- descriptive epidemiology as defined by Last in  
17 spite of me.

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18 Q The only other -- you had mentioned  
19 that -- actually, it doesn't matter.

20 And then the same -- I just have the same  
21 question with respect to the Peipins study which is  
22 Exhibit 8. Again, there was some disagreement amongst  
23 you and some of the Grace experts about -- I can't  
24 remember, but some points about Peipins. But you agree  
25 that it is a descriptive study not designed to test

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1 A Yeah, it's fair.

2 MS. HARDING: Nate, I'm sorry for taking so  
3 long.

4 MR. FINCH: Why don't we take a five-minute  
5 break.

6 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Off the record, the time  
7 is 2:01.

8 (Deposition in recess from 2:01 p.m. to  
9 2:05 p.m.)

10 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We're on the record.  
11 The time is 2:05.

#### 12 EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. FINCH:

14 Q Dr. Molgaard, my name is Nathan Finch. I  
15 represent the Official Committee of Asbestos Personal  
16 Injury Claimants in the Grace bankruptcy.

17 Would you agree with me that a descriptive  
18 epidemiological study does not test any kind of a  
19 hypothesis, not just causal hypotheses?

20 A No, I don't think I would agree with that.

21 Q Well, what do you mean by "causal hypotheses"?

22 A I mean, if you have a specific agent that you  
23 think is causing a specific disease, okay, but you can  
24 use descriptive studies to test other things, like are  
25 the rates for breast cancer in Iowa higher than they are

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1 causal hypotheses; correct?

2 A To me, it's a classic example of a  
3 population-based descriptive epidemiology study.

4 Q Okay. And the associations that are  
5 reported -- well, it's kind of interesting. The  
6 associations that are reported in the study are exactly  
7 what you were talking about at the beginning of the day.  
8 They are designed to, if you find an association there,  
9 to say Okay, let's go -- let's go find out what's really  
10 going on and do a proper epidemiological study and test  
11 whether the association is causal; correct?

12 A Not so much a proper epidemiological study as  
13 one that's more sophisticated.

14 Q Yes; an analytic study designed to test the  
15 hypothesis that the association is actually causal as  
16 opposed to just there by chance.

17 A Right.

18 Q Okay. In epidemiological studies where  
19 the -- in descriptive studies, like the ones we've been  
20 talking about today where they look for associations,  
21 where they don't find associations in the study, I guess  
22 that is something that if you don't find an association,  
23 you typically don't follow up and try to test whether  
24 it's causal or not because it's not there. Is  
25 that -- I'm just trying to -- is that fair?

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1 elsewhere in the United States? It's a research  
2 question. It is a hypothesis, but it's not an  
3 etiological hypothesis, per se.

4 Q It's not -- it's not an analytical  
5 epidemiological study that would allow you to say that  
6 exposure to a particular type of asbestos is more likely  
7 to cause an asbestos-related disease than exposure to a  
8 different type of asbestos; right?

9 A Right. And part of the distinction is that  
10 when you get into the analytical types of studies,  
11 usually there will be some explication of biological  
12 process or plausibility; okay? So exposure to this kind  
13 of an agent causes these sorts of things to happen  
14 biologically and results in this kind of a disease.  
15 Descriptive studies don't usually do that.

16 Q You are not a medical doctor; correct?

17 A Correct.

18 Q You're not an expert on pulmonology?

19 A No.

20 Q You're not board certified in either internal  
21 or occupational medicine?

22 A Correct.

23 Q You have, I counted, 150-some-odd publications  
24 listed on your CV.

25 A Correct.

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1 Q Is that correct?

2 A Yeah.

3 Q Not a single one of them relates to

4 asbestos-related disease?

5 A Actually, there are -- there is one that

6 relates to asbestos-related disease, but it may not be

7 on that copy of the CV that you've got.

8 Q Okay. Have you ever published an article on

9 the epidemiology of asbestos-related disease in a peer

10 review refereed journal?

11 A Yes.

12 Q What was the title of the article and what was

13 it about?

14 A After 150, it gets hard to remember titles

15 exactly. But it's like it was a comparison of the

16 experience in Minamata Bay, Japan where they had a very

17 bad outbreak of mercury poisoning with the experience in

18 Libby, Montana, in terms of the asbestos problems; okay?

19 And basically what I was doing -- it was a journal

20 that -- it was a sustainability journal. It's an

21 environmental health kind of journal. And basically

22 what I was doing there was just trying to say Here you

23 have this pattern in this population. How did the

24 community respond to it in Japan? How did the community

25 respond to it in Libby? Are there any parallels? And

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1 there was differences in potency between different types

2 of asbestos?

3 A I don't remember that discussion. But if you

4 say it was in there, it's in there, I'm sure.

5 Q You certainly haven't reviewed all of the

6 analytical epidemiology literature that exists out there

7 in the world about asbestos disease; correct?

8 A Right.

9 Q As part of your work in this case, you have not

10 attempted to analyze whether amphibole asbestos is more

11 likely to cause mesothelioma than chrysotile asbestos;

12 correct?

13 A Correct.

14 Q The -- would you agree with me that nothing

15 that Dr. Whitehouse has done can stand up, as a matter

16 of analytic epidemiology, or support the hypothesis that

17 Libby asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma than

18 chrysotile asbestos?

19 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; compound.

20 THE WITNESS: In the sense that his studies

21 are descriptive, they are not making -- they're not

22 supporting one or another etiological position.

23 Q (By Mr. Finch) In order to know whether Libby

24 amphibole asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma

25 than chrysotile asbestos on a fiber-for-fiber basis,

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1 that was the thrust of the paper.

2 Q Okay; but it wasn't an analytic study where

3 you're trying to assess causation of asbestos-related

4 disease; correct?

5 A No, no.

6 Q You weren't trying to compare the rate of

7 asbestos disease seen in a Libby cohort compared to the

8 rate of asbestos disease existing anywhere else;

9 correct?

10 A No. I was really looking at a community

11 response to environmental perturbations.

12 Q Okay.

13 Are you familiar with the Environmental

14 Protection Agency Science Advisory Board process?

15 A Just in general.

16 Q What is your general understanding of that?

17 A That it exists and there is a process. That's

18 about it.

19 Q I believe you testified that you read

20 Dr. Frank's deposition in preparation for your

21 deposition today.

22 A Yeah.

23 Q Did you recall the discussion with him about

24 the EPA Science Advisory Board process last summer where

25 the question that they were asked to analyze was whether

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1 you'd have to have accurate exposure data for the

2 cohorts; correct?

3 A You could -- there are a couple of ways you

4 could do it. One would be that way. The other way

5 would be to look at -- to do basically what NIOSH did

6 recently where they were looking at that document I I

7 think we looked at, where they were really

8 making -- setting up a situation where you could do

9 ecological comparisons between different counties in the

10 United States. And the assumption there is that the

11 counties that have high rates, not numbers but rates,

12 are the ones that have some issues around asbestos,

13 et cetera.

14 Q But this Exhibit 1, this CDC NIOSH data, is

15 descriptive epidemiology. It doesn't analyze whether or

16 not -- it doesn't say anything at all about fiber type;

17 correct?

18 A Correct.

19 Q And it doesn't analyze whether or not exposure

20 to amphibole asbestos is more likely to cause

21 mesothelioma than exposure to chrysotile asbestos;

22 correct?

23 A Correct.

24 Q There's no data at all in here about whether

25 people in Camden County or Sagadahoc County, Maine are



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1 exposed to chrysotile asbestos, amphibole asbestos or  
2 Libby asbestos; right?  
3 A Yeah. And the assumption would be that you  
4 would have some extra information that you would know  
5 that, for example, in Libby that there is this kind of a  
6 fiber and elsewhere there's some other kind of a fiber.  
7 And then you could say Well, in general, ecologically,  
8 we can make this comparison. Ecological studies are not  
9 considered a tremendously strong research design, but  
10 you could make a comparison like that.  
11 It would be difficult -- I would not argue that  
12 it was especially analytic to do that, but you could  
13 look at a table like that and make some hypotheses.  
14 Q You could make some hypotheses, but you  
15 certainly couldn't prove that hypothesis to a table like  
16 what's in Exhibit 1; correct?  
17 A Correct.  
18 Q You would not testify, to a reasonable degree  
19 of certainty as an epidemiologist, that exposure to  
20 Libby asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma than  
21 exposure to chrysotile asbestos.  
22 A Probably would not.  
23 Q You haven't done the work to make that  
24 assessment; correct?  
25 A That's correct.

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1 have an Exhibit 15 in this stack.  
2 MS. HARDING: Did I take it back? I'll  
3 find it.  
4 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
5 MR. HEBERLING: What's the number on the  
6 new one?  
7 MR. FINCH: 17 and 18.  
8 THE WITNESS: 17 and 18.  
9 MR. HEBERLING: I have one exhibit here. I  
10 have the EPA November 14th.  
11 PP MR. FINCH: Yep, here it is; 17.  
12 Q (By Mr. Finch) Exhibit 18 is the report from  
13 the Science Advisory Board to the EPA. Do you see that,  
14 sir?  
15 A Yes, sir.  
16 Q And if you look to the third page of the  
17 document that begins Enclosure 1, that lists the members  
18 of the Science Advisory Board Asbestos Committee.  
19 A Okay.  
20 Q Do you see that?  
21 A Yep.  
22 Q And you see that you have toxicologists -- a  
23 toxicologist on that list?  
24 A Uh-huh.  
25 Q You have a couple of epidemiologists on that

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1 Q And to the extent that the EPA Science Advisory  
2 Board, last summer, looked at every piece of analytic  
3 epidemiology that existed in the world on exposure to  
4 different asbestos fiber types and concluded that it was  
5 impossible to quantify the difference between amphibole  
6 asbestos and chrysotile asbestos in causing mesothelioma  
7 or lung cancer, you would not be in a position to say  
8 that they were wrong.  
9 A No, I would not.  
10 Q Have you ever heard of Les Stayner?  
11 A No.  
12 Q Ever heard of Julian Peto?  
13 A Yeah.  
14 Q I take it you weren't involved in the Science  
15 Advisory Board project at all.  
16 A No.  
17 MR. FINCH: Okay. Why don't we mark these  
18 as the next two exhibits.  
19 (Deposition Exhibit Nos. 17 and 18 marked for  
20 identification.)  
21 Q (By Mr. Finch) Handing you what's been marked  
22 as Exhibit 17 and Exhibit 18, and ask you some  
23 questions, first, about Number 18 and then we'll move  
24 back to Number 17.  
25 A Just in terms of housekeeping, I don't seem to

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1 list?  
2 A Uh-huh.  
3 Q When say "uh-huh" you mean yes?  
4 A I'm sorry; yes, I mean yes.  
5 Q You have medical doctors on that list?  
6 A Yes, you do.  
7 Q You have statistics professors on that list?  
8 A Yes.  
9 Q You have industrial hygienists on that list?  
10 A Yes.  
11 Q You have someone who is a professor of soils  
12 who is an expert in mineralogy on that list?  
13 A Right.  
14 Q In short, you have a group of people that, if  
15 you wanted to test the hypothesis of whether or not  
16 amphibole asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma  
17 or lung cancer than is -- or other type of asbestos  
18 fibers, would have the background to make that  
19 assessment; correct?  
20 A They have the background to make an assessment.  
21 Q Yes. And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse has  
22 done the type of analytical work that would be necessary  
23 to make the epidemiological determination that exposure  
24 to Libby asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma  
25 than exposure to chrysotile asbestos.

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1 A I could make an assessment that was  
2 epidemiologic in nature.  
3 Q But you haven't done it; correct?  
4 A I have not done it.  
5 Q Neither has Dr. Whitehouse; correct?  
6 A Not to my knowledge.  
7 Q Okay. And you have not made an assessment as  
8 to whether or not exposure to Libby asbestos is more  
9 likely to cause lung cancer than exposure to chrysotile  
10 or any other type of asbestos.  
11 A Correct.  
12 Q And you can't say, as a matter of expert  
13 epidemiological opinion, that exposure to Libby asbestos  
14 is more likely to cause any asbestos-related disease  
15 than exposure to chrysotile asbestos; correct?  
16 A I have not said that.  
17 Q You have not said that, and Dr. Whitehouse has  
18 not said that.  
19 A Correct.  
20 Q And based on the work you have seen thus far in  
21 the case, no one has done the analysis to be able to  
22 say, as a matter of epidemiology, that exposure to Libby  
23 asbestos is more likely to produce asbestos-related  
24 disease in humans than exposure to other types of  
25 asbestos.

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1 A I don't believe that exists.  
2 Q You mean you don't believe that -- nobody has  
3 done the work to say that; correct?  
4 A Right; yeah.  
5 Q Now, Exhibit 17 is -- this is a document that  
6 you signed; correct?  
7 A Yes.  
8 Q This is an expert report that you prepared in  
9 connection with evaluating whether consumption of  
10 products containing ephedra is a cause of stroke?  
11 A Yes.  
12 Q What's ephedra?  
13 A It's a dietary supplement.  
14 Q Okay.  
15 A An ingredient in a dietary supplement.  
16 Q Okay.  
17 You -- in one of your responses to  
18 Mrs. Harding's questions, you described the CARD  
19 Mortality Study as a case series?  
20 A Yes.  
21 Q Is that correct?  
22 A Yeah.  
23 Q You believe the CARD Mortality Study is a case  
24 series?  
25 A I do believe that.

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1 Q Is the -- Dr. Whitehouse's paper on  
2 mesothelioma in Libby, the 2008 paper, that's also a  
3 case series?  
4 A Yes.  
5 Q The 2004 paper on progression of asbestos  
6 disease, that's also a case series?  
7 A Yes.  
8 Q None of them are -- well, let me back up.  
9 On page three of this expert report that you  
10 signed in 2003 --  
11 A Uh-huh.  
12 Q -- paragraph 15, you refer to something called  
13 a controlled epidemiological study.  
14 A Uh-huh.  
15 Q Do you see that?  
16 A Yes.  
17 Q What is a controlled epidemiological study?  
18 A That would be one where you either have a  
19 formal control group or you have a comparison population  
20 of some kind where you are trying to look at the  
21 background rate of occurrence and compare it to the rate  
22 of disease in the population. So you have a bunch of  
23 people who have used ephedra, for example. What's the  
24 rate of disease in that group compared to the normal  
25 naturally-occurring rate of occurrence of the disease.

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1 And then you can do the -- observe the expected thing if  
2 you're just doing comparison of populations or you can  
3 have a formal -- formal controlled group.  
4 Q Okay. Would you agree with me that the work  
5 that Dr. Whitehouse has done in connection with this  
6 case, none of it is a controlled epidemiological study?  
7 A Correct.  
8 Q Okay. In paragraph 16, second sentence, you  
9 write "A proper study design must precisely define the  
10 hypothesis to be tested and the background rate of  
11 disease at issue." Do you see that?  
12 A Yep.  
13 Q Do you agree with that?  
14 A Uh-huh.  
15 Q Is that a "yes"?  
16 A That is a yes.  
17 Q All right; on the next page, there is a table  
18 Levels of Evidence and Grading of Recommendations. Oh,  
19 sorry, Levels of Evidence and Grading of  
20 Recommendations. Do you see that?  
21 A Yes.  
22 Q The lowest level of data is data from anecdotal  
23 case series.  
24 A Right.  
25 Q And would you agree with me that data from a



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1 case series cannot be used to prove hypotheses about  
2 risk of disease in a population?

3 A That's what John Last says. And I've agreed  
4 with that multiple times today. However, the American  
5 Heart Association table here actually is a stronger  
6 statement about the use of case series than the Last  
7 thing. I mean, they actually include it as --

8 Q They include it as --

9 A -- at the very bottom of the barrel.

10 THE COURT REPORTER: Whoa; I'm sorry.

11 MR. FINCH: Sorry.

12 THE WITNESS: I think they include it as  
13 the weakest kind of evidence which is actually stronger  
14 than what Last says, which I've agreed to 14 times  
15 today. So --

16 Q Right.

17 A So --

18 Q So you basically followed the Last, L-a-s-t,  
19 this guy's book --

20 A Yeah.

21 Q -- that you can't make statements about the  
22 risk of disease in a population based on a case series;  
23 correct?

24 A That's -- that's right.

25 Q That's your view as an expert in the field of

1 significance to whatever happened; okay? Those I do not  
2 have faith in.

3 But a case series which is a bunch of them  
4 strung together through somebody's clinic, there is  
5 something you can learn from those, I believe, because  
6 it's more than one simple case.

7 Q It's more than one simple case, but it  
8 is -- again, a case series is something that you use to  
9 create a hypothesis, but it doesn't test the hypothesis  
10 or confirm the hypothesis; correct?

11 A Correct.

12 Q So if the hypothesis is that exposure to Libby  
13 asbestos is -- strike that.

14 If the hypothesis is that if you have  
15 asbestos -- pleural disease caused by exposure to Libby  
16 asbestos --

17 A Uh-huh.

18 Q -- that you have a quantifiable risk of dying  
19 from that disease, a case series cannot be used to make  
20 a -- to prove that hypothesis.

21 A Right; correct.

22 Q Okay. So, for example, let's talk about the  
23 definition of hypotheses and whether or not  
24 Dr. Whitehouse's work or your work has either tested a  
25 particular hypothesis or proven a particular hypothesis.

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1 epidemiology.

2 A That's my view.

3 Q Now, paragraph 27 of the same document. You  
4 there Dr. Molgaard?

5 A Uh-huh.

6 Q Is that a "yes"?

7 A Yes.

8 Q I don't mean to keep pestering you, but it  
9 makes it easier on the record.

10 A That's all right; I understand.

11 Q You write "Similarly, while anecdotal"  
12 evidence -- "adverse events reports and/or case reports  
13 may give rise to a hypothesis that must be tested, they  
14 cannot be used to quantify any possible risk or to  
15 determine who in a population may be at risk." I take  
16 it you agree with that?

17 A Yes.

18 Q So a case series cannot be used to quantify the  
19 risk of disease; is that correct?

20 A Well, I think what I was trying to talk about  
21 here was a single case report, not a case series; okay?  
22 A single case report, often you'll see in the medical  
23 literature someone will have a case they found that has  
24 some obscure happening in it, and they'll write it up as  
25 a case study and claim that there's probably etiological

1 Can we do that?

2 A Sure.

3 Q Okay. Would you agree with me that a  
4 hypothesis is an assertion or a thought that may or may  
5 not turn out to be true?

6 A Yeah, I can agree with that.

7 Q Okay.

8 One hypothesis we talked about here today is  
9 that Libby asbestos is more likely to cause mesothelioma  
10 than chrysotile asbestos. That's a hypothesis.

11 A Right.

12 Q And so far, neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse has  
13 done the work to establish whether or not that assertion  
14 is true.

15 A Correct.

16 Q Okay.

17 Another hypothesis that -- or assertion that  
18 one could have is that mesothelioma caused by exposure  
19 to Libby asbestos is more likely to lead to death than  
20 mesothelioma caused by exposure to some other type of  
21 asbestos.

22 A Yes.

23 Q That's a hypothesis.

24 A Yes.

25 Q And I don't think anybody has even asserted

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1 that. But whether they've asserted it or not, neither  
2 you nor Dr. Whitehouse has done the work to prove the  
3 truth of that hypothesis; correct?  
4 A Correct.  
5 Q Okay.  
6 Another hypothesis you could have is that lung  
7 cancer caused by exposure to Libby asbestos is more  
8 likely to lead to death than lung cancer caused by  
9 exposure to some other type of asbestos; correct?  
10 A Correct.  
11 Q And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse has done the  
12 work to prove the hypothesis that lung cancer caused by  
13 exposure to Libby asbestos is more likely to lead to  
14 death than lung cancer caused by other forms of  
15 asbestos.  
16 A Correct.  
17 Q Okay.  
18 Another hypothesis you could have is that  
19 asbestosis caused by exposure to Libby asbestos  
20 is -- strike that; let me back up.  
21 Another hypothesis that one could have is that  
22 Libby asbestos is more likely to cause asbestosis than  
23 exposure to a similar amount of chrysotile asbestos.  
24 That's a hypothesis one could have; correct?  
25 A Correct.

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1 pleural disease than is exposure to chrysotile asbestos.  
2 A Correct.  
3 Q And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse, nor anybody  
4 else, has done the analytic epidemiological work to  
5 prove the validity of that hypothesis; correct?  
6 A Correct.  
7 Q Another hypothesis that one could have -- first  
8 of all, would you agree with me that if you're going to  
9 talk about risk of death from a disease or severity of a  
10 disease, it's important to distinguish between different  
11 types of diseases?  
12 A Yeah, given the state of the art at the time  
13 that you're making the distinction.  
14 Q Okay. Let's just talk about smoking, for  
15 example.  
16 A Uh-huh.  
17 Q Smoking is associated with and probably causes  
18 a variety of different diseases; correct?  
19 A Yes.  
20 Q One of the things that smoking is well  
21 established that it causes lung cancer; correct?  
22 A Yes.  
23 Q Another thing that smoking causes is emphysema;  
24 correct?  
25 A Yes.

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1 Q And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse, or any  
2 other expert in this case, has done the work to prove  
3 that that hypothesis is true; correct?  
4 A Correct.  
5 Q Okay.  
6 Another -- another hypothesis that one could  
7 have is that asbestosis that is caused by exposure to  
8 Libby asbestos is more likely to lead to death than  
9 asbestosis caused by exposure to some other type of  
10 asbestos.  
11 A Correct.  
12 Q And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse have done  
13 the epidemiological or analytical work in order to prove  
14 that hypothesis; correct?  
15 A Correct.  
16 Q Nor has Dr. Frank; correct? Nobody in this  
17 case that you've seen has done that work.  
18 A I don't believe so.  
19 Q Okay. And that would be true of my questions  
20 about mesothelioma, my questions about lung cancer;  
21 correct?  
22 A Correct; yeah.  
23 Q Okay.  
24 Another hypothesis that one could have is that  
25 exposure to Libby asbestos is more likely to cause

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1 Q Another thing that smoking causes is chronic  
2 obstructive pulmonary disease; correct?  
3 A Yes.  
4 Q Okay. And so if you're going to make  
5 epidemiological assertions about whether smoking is more  
6 likely to lead to death by a particular disease, would  
7 you agree with me that it's important to define and  
8 describe and differentiate between the different  
9 diseases that you might be talking about; correct?  
10 A Yes.  
11 Q So, for example, the risk of dying from lung  
12 cancer is different than the risk of dying from  
13 emphysema; correct?  
14 A Correct.  
15 Q And the risk of dying from chronic -- COPD.  
16 Can we just say COPD to mean chronic obstructive  
17 pulmonary disease?  
18 A Sure.  
19 Q Is different than the risk of dying from either  
20 emphysema or lung cancer; correct?  
21 A Correct.  
22 Q So it's important to distinguish between the  
23 diseases that you're talking about if you're trying to  
24 test or prove hypothesis about probability of death or  
25 severity of disease. Would you agree with that?



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1 A Yes.  
2 Q Okay.  
3 Would you agree with me that asbestosis, at  
4 least as defined by the American Thoracic Society, is a  
5 different disease than is pleural disease?  
6 A I don't know. I don't know if I would agree  
7 with that, actually.  
8 MR. FINCH: Okay; why don't we get the 2004  
9 ATS statement and go through it.  
10 Can we mark this as the next exhibit? I think  
11 it's already been marked as Exhibit 19.  
12 (Deposition Exhibit No. 19 marked for  
13 identification.)  
14 Q (By Mr. Finch) Before we turn to the 2004 ATS  
15 statement, you had mentioned very early today something  
16 called a Frye hearing?  
17 A Yes.  
18 Q My understanding is -- of a Frye hearing is a  
19 hearing designed to test whether or not an expert's  
20 opinion about a subject matter is supported by sound  
21 scientific principles; is that correct?  
22 A Yeah. My understanding is it's an evaluation  
23 of the scientific issues in a legal matter. I think  
24 it's the same thing.  
25 Q And so, for example, if someone is going to

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1 testify to -- would you agree with me that the  
2 hypothesis that exposure to Libby asbestos is more  
3 likely to cause mesothelioma than exposure to chrysotile  
4 asbestos is a -- is a proposition that, in order to  
5 evaluate it, you have to apply the scientific principles  
6 of epidemiology? At least you should.  
7 A It would be useful to, yeah.  
8 Q Okay. And so if someone were to testify that  
9 Libby -- exposure to Libby asbestos is more likely to  
10 cause mesothelioma than exposure to some other type of  
11 asbestos, and they hadn't done the analytical  
12 epidemiological work to prove that, it would be your  
13 view, as an expert epidemiologist, that that was not a  
14 supportable statement; correct?  
15 A Yeah.  
16 Q Okay.  
17 Now, I put before you the 2004 ATS statement.  
18 A Yes.  
19 Q Do you see that it says -- first of all, the  
20 title of it is Diagnosis and Initial Management of  
21 Nonmalignant Diseases Related to Asbestos.  
22 A Yes.  
23 Q And "Diseases" is plural. It's more than one  
24 disease; correct?  
25 A Yes.

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1 Q Okay. And the -- on page 697, the ATS talks  
2 about different nonmalignant disease outcomes. Do you  
3 see that?  
4 A Yes.  
5 Q Okay. And would you agree with me that  
6 asbestosis is defined as interstitial pneumonitis and  
7 fibrosis caused by inhalation of asbestos fibers.  
8 A That's what it says there; right.  
9 Q Okay. And that's treated as one distinct  
10 diagnostic entity by the American Thoracic Society;  
11 correct?  
12 A I'm not sure. Because on page -- the first  
13 page they say "Nonmalignant asbestos related disease  
14 refers to the following conditions: asbestosis, pleural  
15 thickening, or asbestos-related pleural fibrosis,  
16 (plaques or diffuse fibrosis), 'benign' (nonmalignant)  
17 pleural effusion, and airflow obstruction."  
18 Q And you don't understand that as describing  
19 different diseases?  
20 A Well, it's singular. It says "This statement  
21 presents guidance for the diagnosis of nonmalignant  
22 asbestos-related disease. Nonmalignant asbestos-related  
23 disease," singular, "refers to the following  
24 conditions:" so --  
25 Q You have not spent your career studying

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1 asbestos-related disease; correct?  
2 A Correct.  
3 Q And you are not going to be able to testify as  
4 an expert on asbestos medicine that asbestosis is the  
5 same disease as pleural disease; correct?  
6 A Not unless I -- not unless I quote this thing  
7 here which seems to be saying it's the same thing; a  
8 series of conditions that are --  
9 Q You're just reading the language. You haven't  
10 spent your career treating people with asbestos-related  
11 disease; correct?  
12 A No, no.  
13 Q You don't know the difference -- you haven't  
14 reviewed -- you certainly haven't -- would you agree  
15 with me there are literally thousands of articles in the  
16 medical literature about asbestos-related disease?  
17 A Yes.  
18 Q And you certainly haven't gone out and done a  
19 review of all the literature out there that exists about  
20 asbestos-related anomaly disease?  
21 A Absolutely not.  
22 Q Would you agree with me that there are  
23 different -- that mesothelioma, for example, and lung  
24 cancer are different cancers that are caused by  
25 asbestos?

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<p>1 A Yes.</p> <p>2 Q And do you have a view, based on a career</p> <p>3 in -- in -- do you have a view, based on anything other</p> <p>4 than just reading this document, as to whether or not</p> <p>5 asbestosis is a different disease than pleural plaques,</p> <p>6 for example?</p> <p>7 A My view, from what I have read, and I am not an</p> <p>8 expert -- not an expert in this field. But from what I</p> <p>9 have read, pleural plaques are a type of asbestosis.</p> <p>10 Q That's your view.</p> <p>11 A Yeah.</p> <p>12 Q What about diffuse pleural thickening? Is that</p> <p>13 a type of asbestosis?</p> <p>14 A Of nonmalignant asbestos -- yeah, it says it</p> <p>15 right here. It's pleural thickening. It says it right</p> <p>16 here in this expert report.</p> <p>17 Q So it's your view that diffuse pleural</p> <p>18 thickening is the same disease as asbestosis.</p> <p>19 A I can agree with what's stated here, okay, that</p> <p>20 "Nonmalignant asbestos-related disease refers to the</p> <p>21 following conditions: asbestosis, pleural thickening,</p> <p>22 asbestos-related pleural fibrosis." That, to me, makes</p> <p>23 some sense. But I totally give to you I am not an</p> <p>24 expert in this field.</p> <p>25 Q Okay; will you at least agree with me that on</p>	<p>1 the 2004 ATS statement, is different than the definition</p> <p>2 of pleural disease, what I just read to you.</p> <p>3 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; misstatement of</p> <p>4 the document. It's not an answerable question. That</p> <p>5 isn't the definition of pleural disease.</p> <p>6 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I can't really answer</p> <p>7 that. Could you rephrase that?</p> <p>8 Q (By Mr. Finch) Sure. Would you agree with me</p> <p>9 that there is a definition of asbestosis in the document</p> <p>10 that does not include pleural thickening or pleural</p> <p>11 plaque?</p> <p>12 A There is such a definition, to my way of</p> <p>13 thinking, in the first item that you pointed out on --</p> <p>14 Q On 697?</p> <p>15 A Yeah.</p> <p>16 Q That defines asbestosis as a particular</p> <p>17 diagnostic entity; correct?</p> <p>18 A Yeah, I guess.</p> <p>19 Q And that is talking about interstitial fibrosis</p> <p>20 in the parenchyma of the lung; correct?</p> <p>21 A Right.</p> <p>22 Q You understand that the parenchyma of the lung</p> <p>23 is the inside of the lung and the pleura is the outside</p> <p>24 of the lung.</p> <p>25 A Right.</p>
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<p>1 page 697 there is a definition of asbestosis that says</p> <p>2 "Asbestosis is the interstitial pneumonitis and fibrosis</p> <p>3 caused by inhalation of asbestosis fibers"?</p> <p>4 A There is a definition that says that; yeah.</p> <p>5 Q Then on page 702 there is a definition of</p> <p>6 nonmalignant pleural or abnormalities associated with</p> <p>7 asbestos.</p> <p>8 A Okay.</p> <p>9 Q Do you see that?</p> <p>10 A Yep.</p> <p>11 Q And it says "Pleural abnormalities associated</p> <p>12 with asbestos exposure are the result of collagen</p> <p>13 deposition resulting in subpleural thickening, which may</p> <p>14 subsequently calcify, and which in the visceral pleura</p> <p>15 may be associated with parenchymal fibrosis in adjacent</p> <p>16 subpleural alveoli."</p> <p>17 A Uh-huh.</p> <p>18 Q "Pleural thickening, as a marker of asbestos</p> <p>19 exposure, has continued to be a prominent feature of</p> <p>20 exposure to asbestos while other outcomes, such as</p> <p>21 asbestosis, have become less frequent due to declining</p> <p>22 exposure levels." Do you see that?</p> <p>23 A Yep.</p> <p>24 Q You would agree with me that at least for</p> <p>25 purposes of definition, the definition of asbestosis in</p>	<p>1 Q And so that the definition of asbestosis</p> <p>2 doesn't include disease that occurs on the outside of</p> <p>3 the lung.</p> <p>4 A Well, I think what I'm beginning to understand</p> <p>5 is that this document has internal contradictions in it.</p> <p>6 Because what it said on the second paragraph does not</p> <p>7 appear to agree with what is said on page 697. I could</p> <p>8 be misunderstanding it, but it does not seem to be</p> <p>9 consistent.</p> <p>10 Q If you were to assume that pleural disease is a</p> <p>11 different -- that asbestos-related pleural disease is a</p> <p>12 different disease than asbestosis -- I want you to</p> <p>13 assume that those are two different diagnostic entities</p> <p>14 for the purpose of my questions.</p> <p>15 A Yes.</p> <p>16 Q Would you agree with me that if you were going</p> <p>17 to test the hypothesis of whether or not pleural disease</p> <p>18 caused by exposure to Libby asbestos is more severe than</p> <p>19 pleural disease caused by exposure to other types of</p> <p>20 asbestos, it's important to define and distinguish</p> <p>21 between pleural disease as compared to asbestosis?</p> <p>22 A If that distinction is -- is the one that the</p> <p>23 American Thoracic Society is operating with. Though</p> <p>24 from this document, it's very hard to tell that, though</p> <p>25 I have not read the entire thing.</p>



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1 Q All right.  
2 One hypothesis that one could test is whether  
3 or not pleural disease caused by exposure to Libby  
4 asbestos is more likely to lead to death than pleural  
5 disease caused by exposure to other types of asbestos;  
6 correct?  
7 A Correct.  
8 Q And neither you nor Dr. Whitehouse nor anybody  
9 else have done the analytical epidemiological work to  
10 prove whether or not that hypothesis is true; correct?  
11 A Correct.  
12 Q So you couldn't say, for example, that someone  
13 who has pleural disease caused by exposure to Libby  
14 asbestos is more likely to die than someone who has  
15 pleural disease caused by some other asbestos; right?  
16 You couldn't say that, as a matter of epidemiological  
17 science.  
18 A I could not.  
19 Q And Dr. Whitehouse's work doesn't support that  
20 hypothesis either. You wouldn't agree that, as a matter  
21 of analytical epidemiology --  
22 A Yeah.  
23 Q -- that -- that his work would support that  
24 hypothesis.  
25 A Yes, I agree.

PP

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1 Q And neither he nor you have done the analytical  
2 epidemiological work to determine whether that  
3 hypothesis is true.  
4 A Correct.  
5 Q The -- you certainly haven't -- you certainly  
6 are not prepared to give an opinion, to a reasonable  
7 degree of certainty as a epidemiology -- as an  
8 epidemiologist, that the pleural disease caused by  
9 exposure to Libby asbestos is more severe, in terms of  
10 loss of lung function, than pleural disease caused by  
11 other forms of asbestos outside of Libby.  
12 A Correct.  
13 Q And in your view as an expert epidemiologist,  
14 none of the work done by Dr. Whitehouse or Dr. Frank, or  
15 any other expert in this case, would allow you to prove  
16 that hypothesis.  
17 A Not that I'm aware of.  
18 Q In your expert report, I believe it's Exhibit 2  
19 to your deposition, do you have that, Dr. Molgaard?  
20 A Not yet.  
21 Q If you go to page nine of that report --  
22 A Uh-huh.  
23 Q -- you're responding to one of -- is it Mr. or  
24 Dr. -- Dr. Moolgavkar's comments on Whitehouse's 2004  
25 paper about progressive loss of lung function. Do you

PP

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1 Q Okay.  
2 And in his CARD Mortality Study, did you  
3 understand that of the 76 nonmalignant deaths,  
4 Dr. Whitehouse included people who both had pleural  
5 disease as well as people who had asbestosis?  
6 A My understanding was that he was looking at  
7 asbestosis-related disease, however that is defined.  
8 Q However he defined it, it included both  
9 parenchymal disease and pleural disease in his 76  
10 deaths.  
11 A I believe he did.  
12 Q Okay.  
13 Would you agree with me that in order to draw a  
14 conclusion from a smaller population and apply it to a  
15 larger population, the smaller population has to be  
16 representative of the larger population?  
17 A I'm not sure if I understand your question.  
18 Q Let me strike that question and re-ask it.  
19 One hypothesis that Dr. Whitehouse has raised  
20 is that pleural disease caused by exposure to Libby  
21 asbestos is different, in terms of severity of lung  
22 function loss, than pleural disease caused by other  
23 forms of asbestos. That's a hypothesis that he has;  
24 correct?  
25 A Correct.

PP

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1 see that?  
2 A Yeah.  
3 MR. HEBERLING: What page is that?  
4 PP MR. FINCH: Page nine of Molgaard's report.  
5 Q (By Mr. Finch) You write "First, the study is  
6 on 123 subjects who are representative of the asbestos  
7 disease population." Do you see that?  
8 A Yeah.  
9 Q You didn't make any independent assessment of  
10 whether the 123 patients in the progression study were  
11 representative of the -- all the people in Libby,  
12 Montana who have asbestos-related disease, did you?  
13 A No.  
14 Q So if, for example, the 123 subjects in the  
15 2004 paper were, on average, exposed to far more  
16 asbestos than the average level of exposure for all  
17 1,800 people in the Libby patient population, then they  
18 wouldn't be representative -- the 123 wouldn't be  
19 representative of the disease population of the whole;  
20 correct?  
21 A Yes, if you're saying the selection bias code  
22 still exists.  
23 Q Okay. You just used a term "selection bias."  
24 A Yeah.  
25 Q Explain to me what is selection bias.

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1 A That is the people who get into, say in this  
2 situation, perhaps these people who come to the doctor's  
3 attention and get into his clinical series, select  
4 themselves somehow or other. That is, there is -- they  
5 show up because they feel worse. They show up because  
6 they're closer to the doctor's office. They show up  
7 because they've known the doctor who's treated other  
8 people who have had the disease. Anything that produces  
9 a pressure or bias on people who get to a place, enter a  
10 study or enter an analysis, for reasons that you would  
11 not normally expect. And bias is defined as any  
12 systematic deviation from the truth. So if it's a  
13 systematic selection pressure that gets people to his  
14 clinical series, you know, then it could be -- it could  
15 be that there is such a bias.

16 Q Okay; in addition to a selection bias, there  
17 can also be things that make the 123 people  
18 unrepresentative of the bigger patient population;  
19 correct?

20 A And the selection bias is what would drive that  
21 lack, if it was there. The selection bias would be one  
22 of the things that could drive a lack of  
23 generalizability.

24 Q Okay. But I mean, as I understood when you  
25 were saying "selection bias," the example you used was

PP

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1 no -- which there is no safe exposure.  
2 A Right; there are some exceptions, yes.  
3 Q So the math gets squirrely when you start  
4 putting infinity -- one over zero you get to infinity.  
5 A It does, yeah.  
6 Q So leaving mesothelioma aside, the other -- the  
7 other asbestos-related diseases are dose response in  
8 that the more asbestos you're exposed to, the more  
9 likely you are to get an asbestos-related disease;  
10 correct?

11 A It appears to be that way.  
12 Q And would you also agree with the proposition  
13 that, generally speaking, the more heavily you are  
14 exposed, the more severe your nonmalignant disease tend  
15 to be. People look at, for example, the insulator as  
16 compared to lower exposed coworkers.  
17 A I guess I would say to that that there  
18 are -- the whole arena of exposure in environmental  
19 health has been really worked a lot in the last few  
20 years. It appears that, you know, a lot of what happens  
21 with different kinds of diseases is maybe not the size  
22 of the dose, but maybe it's when you are dosed, when in  
23 your life span are you dosed. Are you dosed, you know,  
24 as an adolescent?

25 Q You mean, earlier exposures might be more

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1 people felt worse or they were closer to Whitehouse's  
2 office. That's one example of a selection bias;  
3 correct?

4 A Sure.

5 Q Another example of selection bias could be if,  
6 for example, the 123 patients in the study were far  
7 heavier smokers at some point in their life than the  
8 1,800 patients that you might want to extrapolate it to,  
9 then the 123 wouldn't necessarily be representative at  
10 all to what you might expect in the 1,800; correct?

11 A It could be.

12 Q And if, for example, the 123 patients in the  
13 progression study were, on average, exposed to -- would  
14 you agree with me that asbestos diseases are dose  
15 responsive?

16 A By and large, they appear to be.

17 Q Meaning that the more asbestos you're exposed  
18 to, the more likely you are to contract an  
19 asbestos-related disease; correct?

20 A Correct.

21 Q And that's true for both nonmalignant diseases  
22 and asbestos-related cancers.

23 A I believe that is true.

24 Q Although, for mesothelioma, there is -- they  
25 haven't really defined a threshold below which there is

PP

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1 dangerous than later exposures.  
2 A Yeah, exactly. So it may not be just the  
3 cumulative exposure, it may be when. A fair amount of  
4 study coming out of the National Study of Environmental  
5 Health is showing fairly persuasively that a lot of  
6 chronic diseases appear to be related to in utero  
7 exposures. So it's like, you know, are you exposed in  
8 utero, and that could be something that drives the  
9 disease pattern of diabetes in your thirties.

10 Q Um --

11 A So that's a long answer. Because really what  
12 I'm just trying to say is it's more than just dose.  
13 Dose itself is very important. But it could be when you  
14 are dosed.

15 Q Okay. But if, for example, the 123 patients in  
16 the progression study, if the vast majority of them were  
17 miners who were exposed to a lot more asbestos on  
18 average than the rest of the 1,800 patient population,  
19 it may well be that the progression of lung function  
20 decline you saw in the 123 would not be predictive of  
21 what you would see in the bigger population.

22 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; outside his area  
23 of expertise.

24 THE WITNESS: I didn't really understand  
25 the question anyway, so....



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1 Q (By Mr. Finch) Okay. In order for the -- in  
2 order for you to make any extrapolation from the 123 to  
3 the bigger patient population, you would have to -- the  
4 123 would have to be representative of the bigger  
5 patient population on every variable that matters for  
6 lung function decline; correct?

7 A Ideally, yes.

8 Q Okay. And you haven't done anything to assess  
9 whether there are variables about those 123 subjects  
10 that are different as it relates to the things that  
11 might cause lung function decline. You haven't done  
12 that.

13 A No, I have not.

14 Q Okay.

15 Last defines the power of a study as the  
16 ability of a study to demonstrate an association, if one  
17 exists.

18 A Right.

19 Q Could you put that into layman's terms? What  
20 does that mean?

21 A It's the amount of surety you have that you  
22 have actually found something and that there really is  
23 something going on in your study and it's not just  
24 something could happen by chance; okay? It's -- it has  
25 to do with type one, type two errors when you're doing

PP

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1 going to come up 70 percent heads and 30 percent tails;  
2 correct?

3 A Yeah.

4 Q And so with a study that has much less  
5 statistical power, you might draw invalid conclusions  
6 just because the study doesn't have enough power to weed  
7 out random events; correct?

8 A Yeah.

9 Q Okay.

10 Dr. Whitehouse's progression study was looking  
11 at a subset of his total patient population. His total  
12 patient population is 1,800 people; right?

13 A Right.

14 Q And of those 1,800, we've got the medical  
15 records of about a thousand of them that were produced;  
16 correct?

17 MR. HEBERLING: Objection; misstatement of  
18 the record.

19 MR. FINCH: Have you produced the medical  
20 records for all 1,800 people?

21 MR. HEBERLING: You're talking about the  
22 Whitehouse progression study.

23 MR. FINCH: Yes.

24 MR. HEBERLING: The client number at that  
25 time was 491.

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1 inferential testing. And power is one minus beta or one  
2 minus type two error. And it's rather complicated and  
3 boring. But basically what it amounts to is that there  
4 is -- it gives you a probability that what you are  
5 finding is really there.

6 Most studies of analytic type will look  
7 at -- will want a power of one minus beta probability of  
8 80 to 90 percent. And so you then generate a sample  
9 that gives you that much power.

10 Q I've sort of always thought it was power as a  
11 statistical concept in the sense that if you have an  
12 observation of ten events, that's a much less powerful  
13 study than if you have an observation of a thousand  
14 similar events; correct?

15 A Yeah.

16 Q So, for example, if you wanted to -- if you  
17 wanted to make conclusions about the probability of  
18 flipping a coin and how often it's going to be heads  
19 versus how often it's going to be tails, if you did a  
20 study with only ten flips, that's far less powerful than  
21 a study that has a thousand flips; correct?

22 A That's a good way -- yeah, that's fine.

23 Q So, for example, if you flip a coin ten times,  
24 you might come up seven heads and three tails. Whereas  
25 if you did it a thousand times, the odds are you're not

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1 PP MR. FINCH: I understand that.

2 Q (By Mr. Finch) But of the -- there are 1,800  
3 people who live in and around Libby who have been  
4 diagnosed with asbestos-related disease, correct,  
5 Dr. Molgaard? That's your understanding?

6 A Yeah.

7 Q The 123 patients are -- obviously, it's a much  
8 smaller number of people than either 900 or 1,800;  
9 correct?

10 A Right.

11 Q So would you agree with me that if you -- and  
12 would you agree with me that what Whitehouse did in the  
13 2004 paper was what some -- he did an analysis of change  
14 in lung function over time between point A and point B?

15 A Right.

16 Q And the time period was about three years, on  
17 average?

18 A Right.

19 Q Okay. Would you agree with me that, as a  
20 matter of statistics, a study that analyzes lung  
21 function decline in 123 people over a three-month (sic)  
22 period of time is much less powerful than a study that  
23 would examine lung function decline in 900 people with  
24 asbestos-related disease over a five-to-seven-year  
25 period of time?

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1 A I would not agree with you, because the issue  
2 is where does the concept of statistical power apply.  
3 And by and large, it does not apply to descriptive  
4 studies. It applies to analytical studies or clinical  
5 trials.  
6 Q Okay; I'm glad you mentioned that. A  
7 descriptive -- you could not use the results of a  
8 descriptive study to say -- to make predictions about  
9 the outcomes of a disease in a larger population;  
10 correct?  
11 A Could not use it to do what?  
12 Q To make a prediction about the disease  
13 progression in a bigger population.  
14 A I would not think so, because I think that  
15 that's -- what you're really doing is you're  
16 using -- you are explaining what's going on within this  
17 case series.  
18 Q Right; you're explaining -- you're saying  
19 you've got these 123 people, and 76 percent of them  
20 showed a lung function decline over a three-year period  
21 of time; correct?  
22 A Right.  
23 Q You could not, as a matter of analytic  
24 epidemiology, say that because I observed that in these  
25 123 people, therefore, there is a 76-percent chance that

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1 anywhere in your expert witness report any analysis or  
2 discussion or criticism of the W.R. Grace bankruptcy  
3 trust distribution procedures.  
4 A I know almost nothing about that.  
5 Q Okay. You said you reviewed Dr. Whitehouse's  
6 report and you commented on certain aspects of his  
7 report --  
8 A Uh-huh.  
9 Q -- but am I correct that you have not been  
10 asked to analyze or review or have any opinions about  
11 the medical or exposure criteria in the Grace TDP?  
12 A That's correct.  
13 Q So you're not vouching for Dr. Whitehouse's  
14 views -- you're not vouching for or critiquing the  
15 medical and exposure criteria in the TDP in any way.  
16 A That's correct.  
17 Q Okay.  
18 And then Mr. Whitehouse -- excuse me. I've  
19 been traveling a lot lately. I just slandered  
20 Dr. Whitehouse and Mr. Heberling as to which I'm both  
21 sorry.  
22 But Mr. Heberling --  
23 **MR. HEBERLING:** I don't -- well, anyway,  
24 you said "Mr. Whitehouse." You didn't say anything  
25 about Dr. Heberling which would be slander.

PP

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1 anybody who has an asbestos-related disease in Libby  
2 will also suffer a lung function decline.  
3 A That would be a hypothesis to be tested, I  
4 believe.  
5 Q And nobody's done the work in this case to  
6 prove the hypothesis that every -- or anybody with  
7 asbestos disease in Libby has a 76-percent chance to  
8 have a loss of lung function.  
9 A Not to my knowledge.  
10 Q Okay.  
11 And nobody has done the epidemiological work to  
12 prove the hypothesis that anybody who has an  
13 asbestos-related disease in Libby has a 59-percent  
14 chance of dying; correct?  
15 A Done the work in terms of analytic  
16 epidemiology, no, not to my knowledge.  
17 **MR. FINCH:** Okay; this would be a good time  
18 to take a little break. I'm getting close to done.  
19 **VIDEO TECHNICIAN:** Off the record, then,  
20 it's 3:06.  
21 (Deposition in recess from 3:06 p.m. to  
22 3:10 p.m.)  
23 **VIDEO TECHNICIAN:** We're back on the  
24 record. The time is 3:10.  
25 Q (By Mr. Finch) Dr. Molgaard, I didn't see

PP

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1 **MR. FINCH:** I was thinking about you and  
2 I -- Whitehouse is a doctor, obviously. Mr. Heberling  
3 is a very fine lawyer.  
4 Q (By Mr. Finch) Mr. Heberling sent me an  
5 e-mail, along with other people, on Saturday that talks  
6 about paragraphs 44, 45, and 48 of Dr. Whitehouse's May  
7 2009 report. And I think that report was marked as one  
8 of --  
9 A That's 5, Exhibit 5.  
10 Q -- Exhibit 5. And this is where he's  
11 describing the mesothelioma cases in Libby as compared  
12 to the Libby's average population versus the  
13 mesothelioma cases around the Manville plant.  
14 A Uh-huh.  
15 Q Again, this analysis in paragraphs 44 and 45 is  
16 a matter of descriptive epidemiology; correct?  
17 A Correct.  
18 Q So you cannot, from that, make any causal  
19 connection as to whether exposure to amphiboles in Libby  
20 is more or more -- more or less likely the cause of  
21 mesothelioma than exposure to asbestos around Manville,  
22 New Jersey; correct?  
23 A Um --  
24 Q Let me withdraw that question and rephrase it.  
25 You don't know what kind of asbestos



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1 exposures -- the paragraphs 44 and 45 do not allow one  
 2 to test the hypothesis as to whether exposure to Libby  
 3 asbestos is more or less likely to cause mesothelioma  
 4 than exposure to other types of asbestos; correct?  
 5 A Correct.  
 6 Q And similarly, paragraph 48, this is describing  
 7 the ATSDR study and mortality in Libby, Montana?  
 8 A Yes.  
 9 Q Do you see that?  
 10 A Uh-huh.  
 11 Q This paragraph doesn't attempt to make any  
 12 comparison between the ability of amphibole asbestos  
 13 from Libby to cause asbestosis as compared to other  
 14 types of asbestos fibers that cause asbestosis.  
 15 A Correct.  
 16 MR. FINCH: I believe I'm done; pass the  
 17 witness.  
 18 MR. HEBERLING: All yours, Dale.  
 19 MR. COCKRELL: No questions.  
 20 MR. FINCH: Does anybody on the telephone  
 21 have any questions?  
 22 MR. HEBERLING: Is anyone on the telephone?  
 23 I think we woke somebody up. I heard something.  
 24 THE WITNESS: I heard a choking noise.  
 25 MR. HEBERLING: So I will reserve my

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1 questions to the time of trial.  
 2 MR. FINCH: Okay.  
 3 You have the right to read and sign. I'm sure  
 4 you know all about that. So this deposition is  
 5 concluded.  
 6 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: This ends the  
 7 deposition. The time is 3:15.  
 8 (Deposition concluded at 3:15 p.m.; witness  
 9 excused, signature reserved.)  
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CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS

1	PAGE	LINE	CORRECTION
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14			
15			I, CRAIG MOLGAARD, Ph.D., have read the
16			foregoing transcript of my testimony and believe the
17			same to be true, except for the corrections noted above.
18			DATED this            day of            , 2009.
19			
20			Deponent
21			SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this            day
22			of            , 2009.
23			
24			Notary Public for the State of Montana
25			Residing at            , Montana
			My Commission expires:

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

1 I, BAMBI A. GOODMAN, CSR, RPR, CRR and Notary  
 2 Public in and for the State of Montana, residing in  
 3 Whitefish, Montana, do hereby certify:  
 4 That I did report the foregoing videotaped  
 5 deposition after having duly sworn CRAIG MOLGAARD, Ph.D.  
 6 to the truth; that the deposition was taken at the time  
 7 and place stated on the caption hereto; that the  
 8 testimony of the witness was taken in shorthand by me  
 9 and subsequently reduced to writing under my direction;  
 10 that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of  
 11 the testimony given by the witness;  
 12 I further certify that I am not counsel,  
 13 attorney nor relative or employee of any party, nor  
 14 otherwise interested in the event of this suit.  
 15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed  
 16 my name and affixed my seal of office this 29th day of  
 17 June, 2009.  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23 BAMBI A. GOODMAN, CSR, RPR, CRR and  
 24 Notary Public, State of Montana  
 25 Residing at Whitefish, Montana  
 My Commission expires 3/21/10